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artificial state of life;" and the possession of a "free intelligence," far above the operation of a blind instinct, by which an animal is, according to Descartes' theory, a "mere machine." And yet the author concedes that the beaver is lower in intelligence than the carnivorous animals, the dog, fox, cats, etc. He ascribes memory, imagination, will, appetites, and passions and an intellect to dumb animals, and cites the case of Dr. Kane's lunatic dog as an evidence that these animals have a *mind to lose*.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE CHICAGO ACADEMY.*—We congratulate the Chicago Academy that this splendid volume, after vexatious delays caused by two fires, has at length appeared. It contains an article on Western Palæontology, by Professor J. H. McChesney, and Descriptions of Sub-carboniferous and Carboniferous Fossils, collected in the Iowa Geological Survey, by Dr. C. A. White and Mr. O. H. St. John. Dr. I. A. Lapham contributes a paper on the Climate of the Country bordering on the Great Lakes. Mr. F. B. Meek has an article on the Geology of the Valley of the McKenzie River, from notes and fossils collected by the late Robert Kennicott; and Dr. William Simpson contributes Illustrations of North American Birds in the Museum of the Academy, illustrated with beautiful colored plates, presented to the Academy by the liberality of several of its members and patrons. The Academy also publishes its octavo "Proceedings," and recently dedicated its new and spacious Museum. Science is carefully fostered in the West; the railroad companies provide the officers of the Academy with free passes and free freightage over their roads, and liberally extend other facilities and courtesies to naturalists engaged in scientific explorations.

POPULAR SCIENCE REVIEW, *January* (London).—M. Trécul has discovered the existence of minute vegetable organisms (*Amylobacteria*) within the starch-cells of *Helianthus tuberosus*, the Jerusalem artichoke. This has by him been regarded as a decided proof of the spontaneous generation of plants. The Review objects that vegetable forms of the lowest type may enter the tissues of animals. There is no more wonder in the fact of a Cholera-fungus in the blood of man than in a *Amylobacterium* in the starch-cell of a *Helianthus tuberosus*.—Professor Rolleston believes that the domestic cat of classical times was probably a Marten.—Herr. C. Claus, of Marburg, has published a paper to prove that the male of *Psyche helix*, a small moth allied to the Silk-worm moth exists. Our readers are aware that the case of *P. helix* was one of the "leading cases" in the history of Parthenogenesis, or development from asexual animals.—M. Donné, who has so long and ably supported the heterodox theory of spontaneous generation, has cried *peccavi*. He admitted that his latest researches, so far from supporting heterogeny, convince him of the accuracy of the views of his old opponent, M. Pasteur.

* Transactions of the Chicago Academy of Sciences. Vol. I, Part I. Royal 8vo. Chicago, 1867. With a map and eighteen lithographic plates and numerous wood-cuts. Price, \$5.00 a part. (This merely covers the cost of publishing.)